



# FEMA



Prepared by  
*Todd Beal*

# FEMA Region 6 Weather Threat Briefing

Wednesday, December 19, 2018

**Disclaimer:** The purpose of this briefing is to provide a **Regional** weather threat assessment and is meant as a general overview. County/Parish decision makers should consult their local NWS forecast offices for the latest detailed, local weather information. To find your local NWS forecast office, go to [www.weather.gov/srh](http://www.weather.gov/srh).

# Summary of the Upcoming Week



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## Today

- **Elevated fire weather conditions across NM, far West Texas, and the TX/OK Panhandles**

## Thursday

- **Elevated fire weather conditions across the TX/OK Panhandles and W OK/NW TX**
- **Elevated to near critical fire weather conditions for the Rio Grande Valley into Deep South Texas**

## Friday – Sunday

- **No significant weather impacts**

## River Flooding

- **Minor river flooding continues across parts of E&SE TX into LA/AR.**
- **No significant impacts.**

# FEMA Region 6 Threat Matrix

Dec 19, 2018 – Dec 23, 2018



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DAY / THREAT	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
Severe Storms					
Heavy Rain / Flash Flooding					
Winter Weather					
Fire Weather	NM/far W TX TX/OK Panhandles	TX/OK Panhandles and W OK/ NW TX RGV into Deep STX			
River Flooding	E&SE TX/LA/AR	E&SE TX/LA/AR	E&SE TX/LA/AR	E&SE TX/LA/AR	E&SE TX/LA/AR

	No Weather Threats Expected
	Very Common – Happens Often
	Common – Happens Frequently
	Uncommon – A Few Times a Year
	Rare – Once Every 1-5 Years
	Very Rare – Once Every 5-10 Years

*\*Threat levels are based on FEMA Region 6 criteria.  
State or local threat level criteria may differ.\*  
For more details on the colors in the threat matrix refer to the last slide in this briefing.*



# 5-Day Precipitation Forecast & River Flood Status

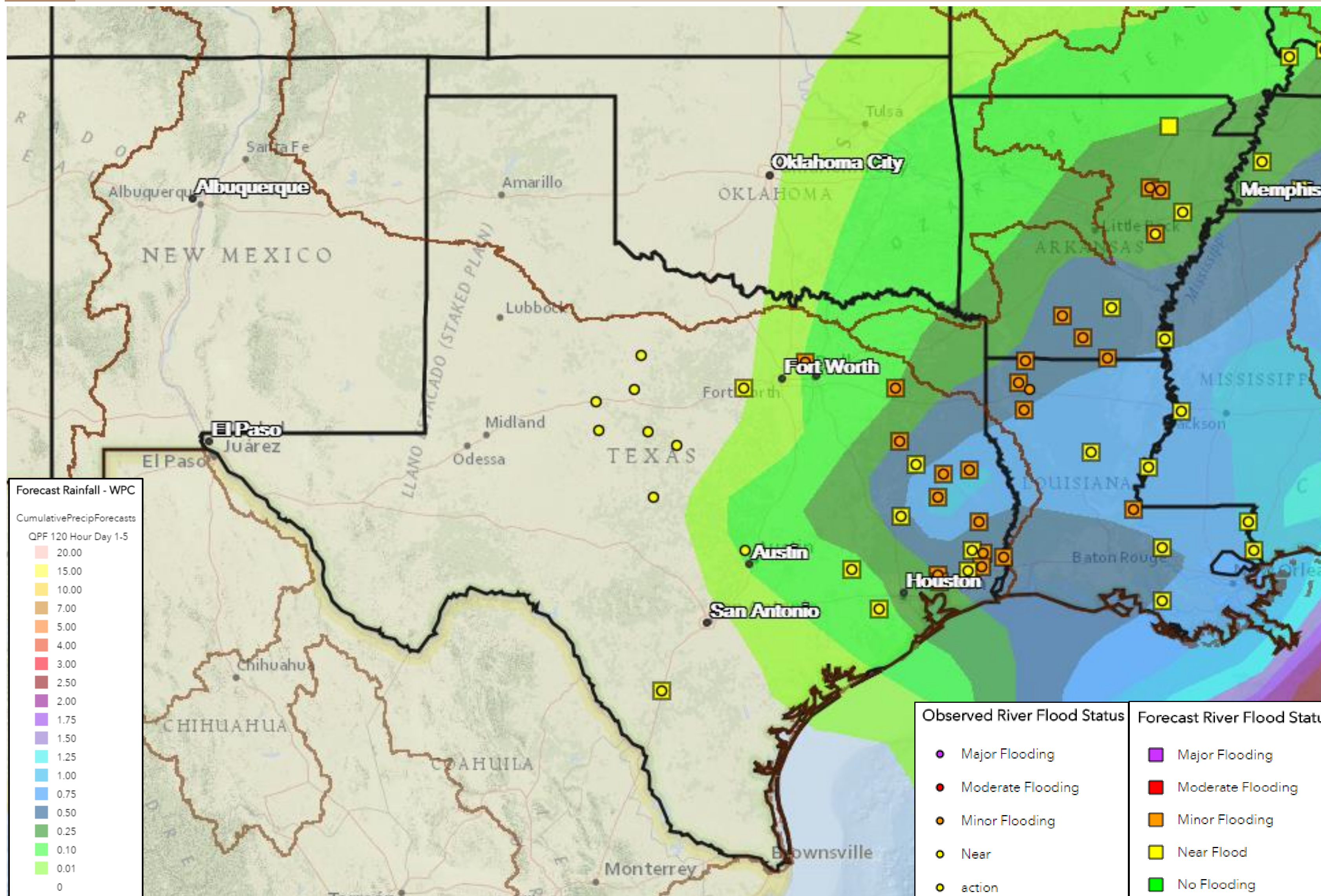


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Note: Even though the image displays 5 days of forecasted rainfall, river forecasts only include 1-2 days of rainfall

**Minor river flooding continues  
this week for E & SE TX into LA/AR.**

**No significant impacts.**



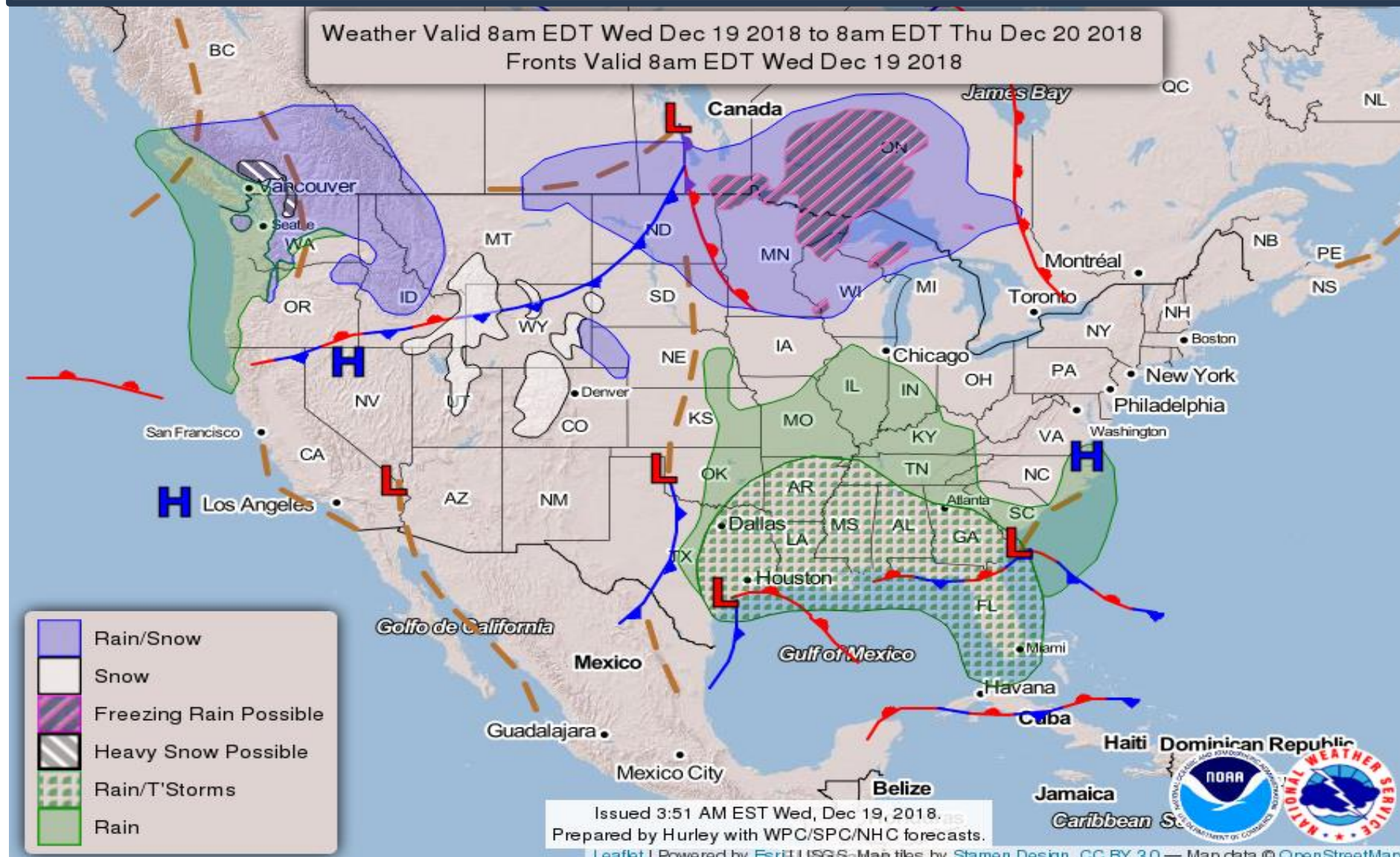


# Today's Weather

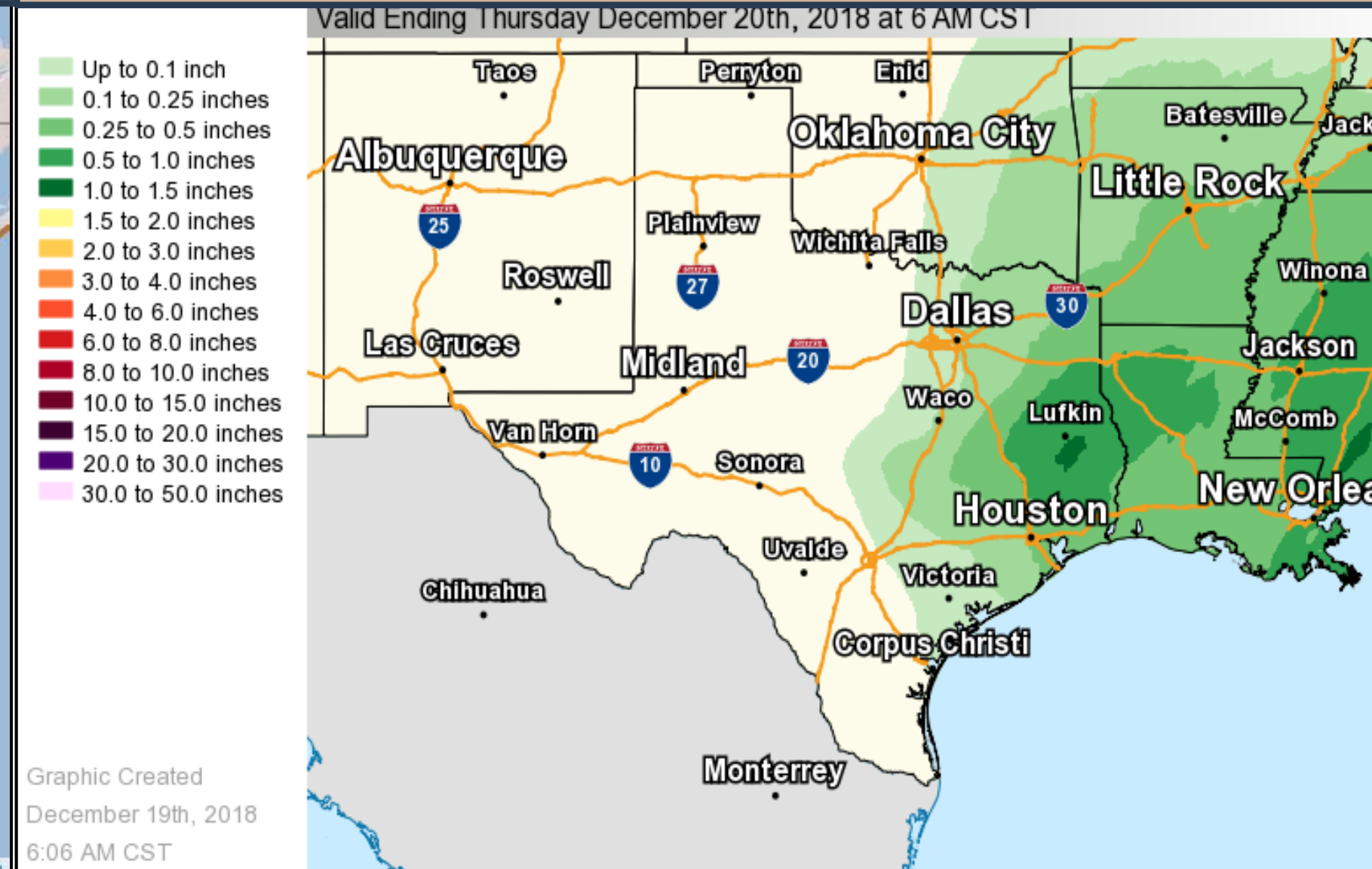


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## Forecast Chart

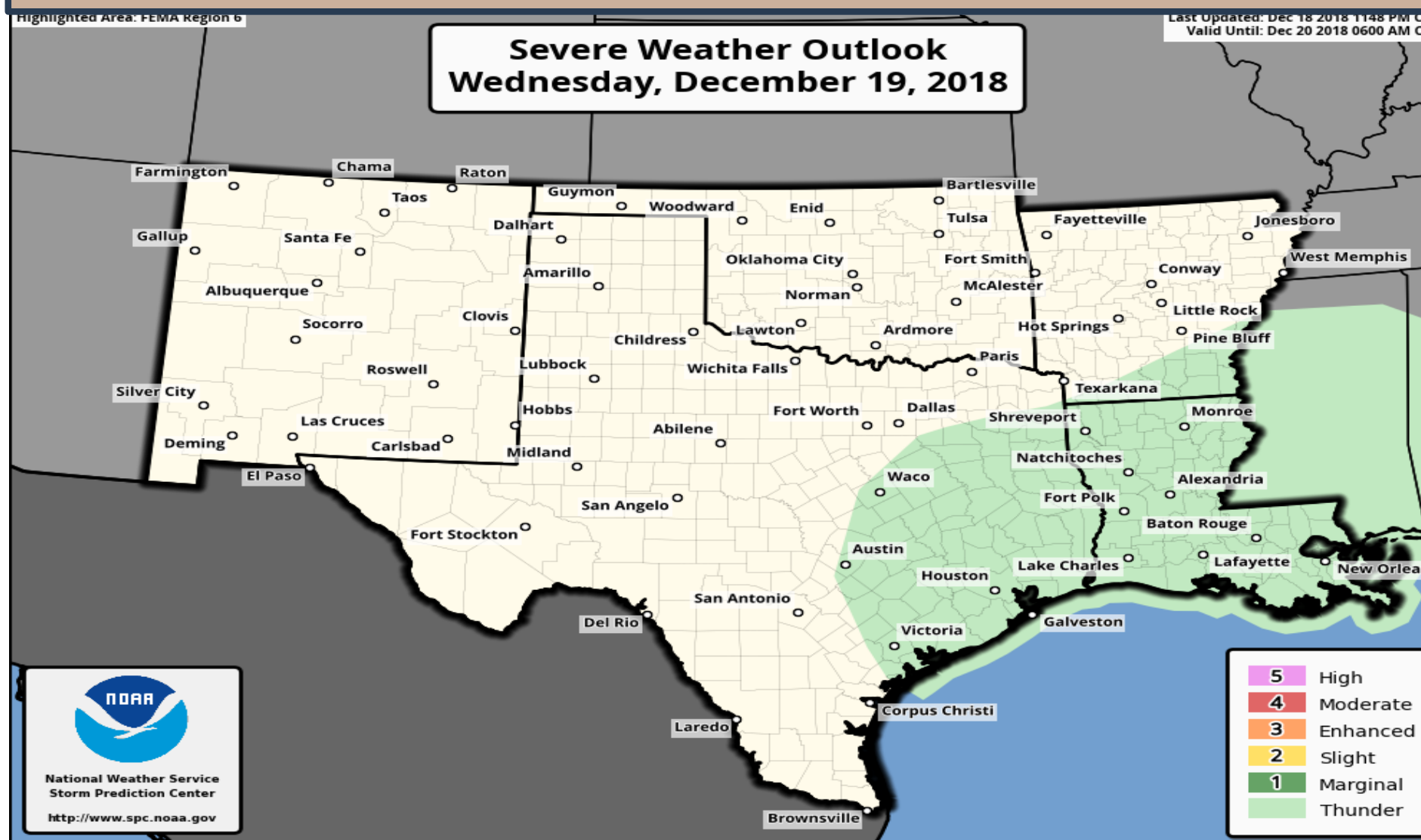


## Forecast Rainfall



**Elevated fire weather  
conditions over NM, far West  
TX, and the TX/OK Panhandles**

## Severe Weather Outlook



## Excessive Rainfall Outlook



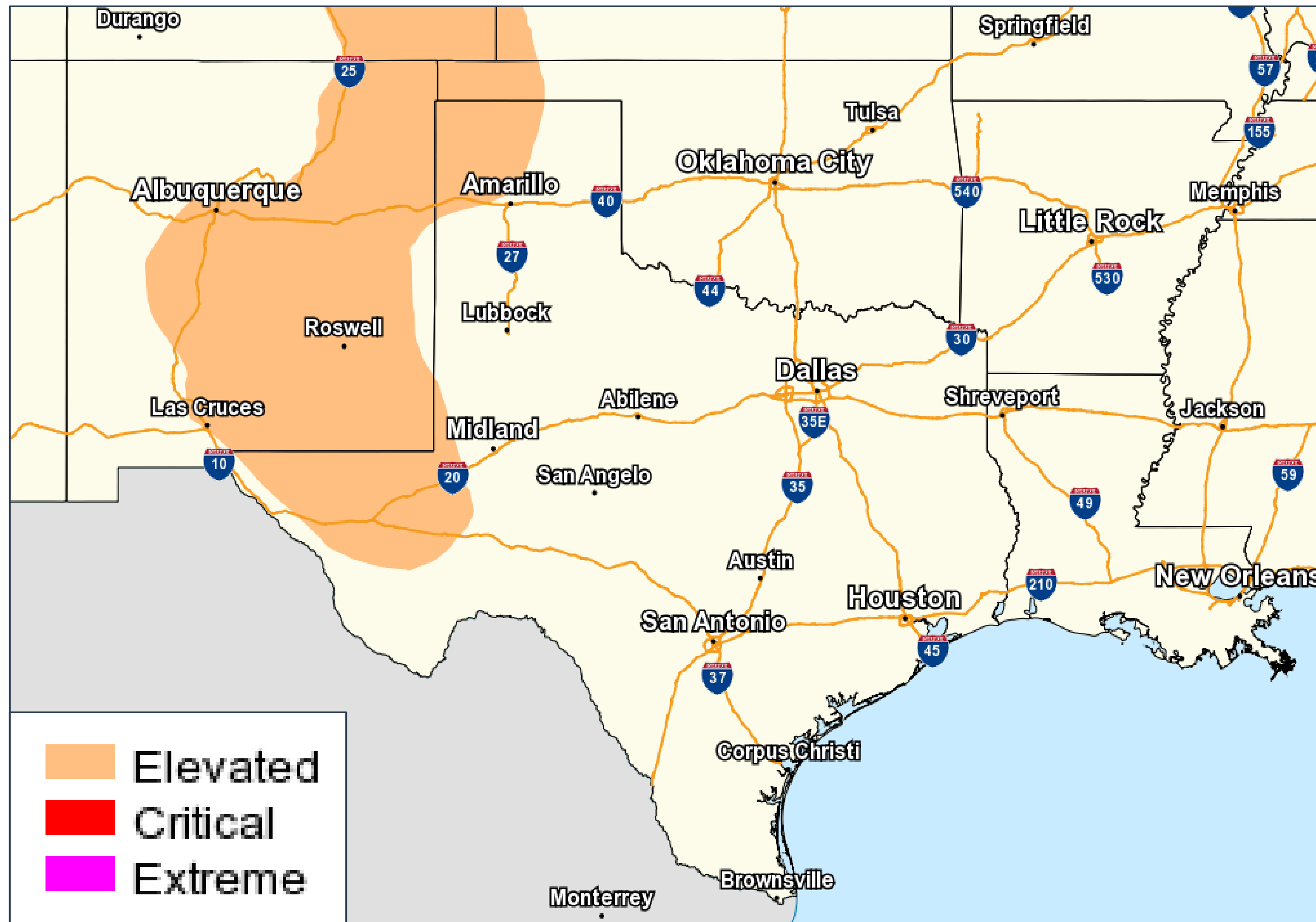


# Today's Fire Weather Outlook



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**Elevated fire weather conditions over NM,  
far West TX, and TX/OK Panhandles**



Orange Elevated  
Red Critical  
Magenta Extreme

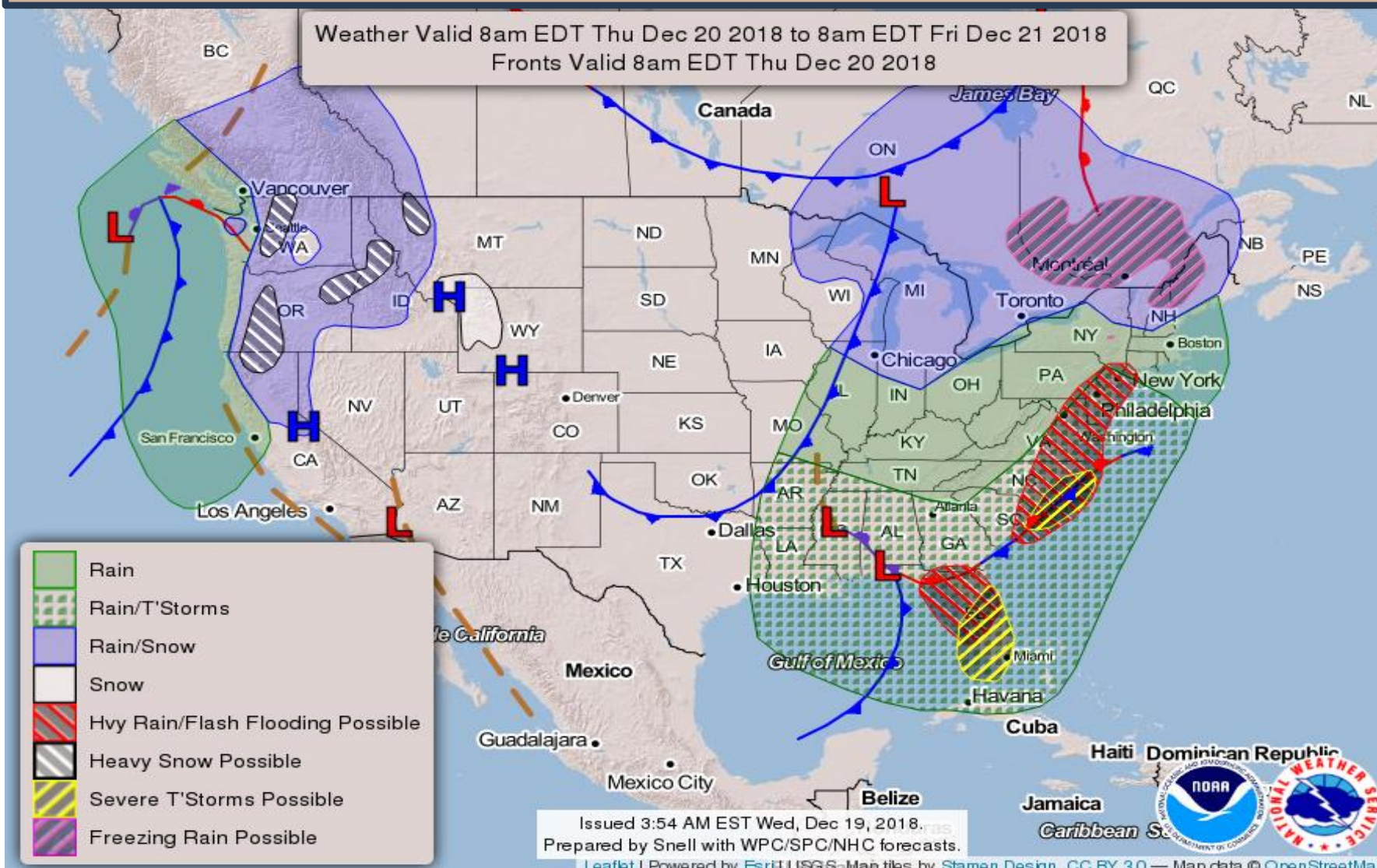


# Tomorrow's Weather



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## Forecast Chart

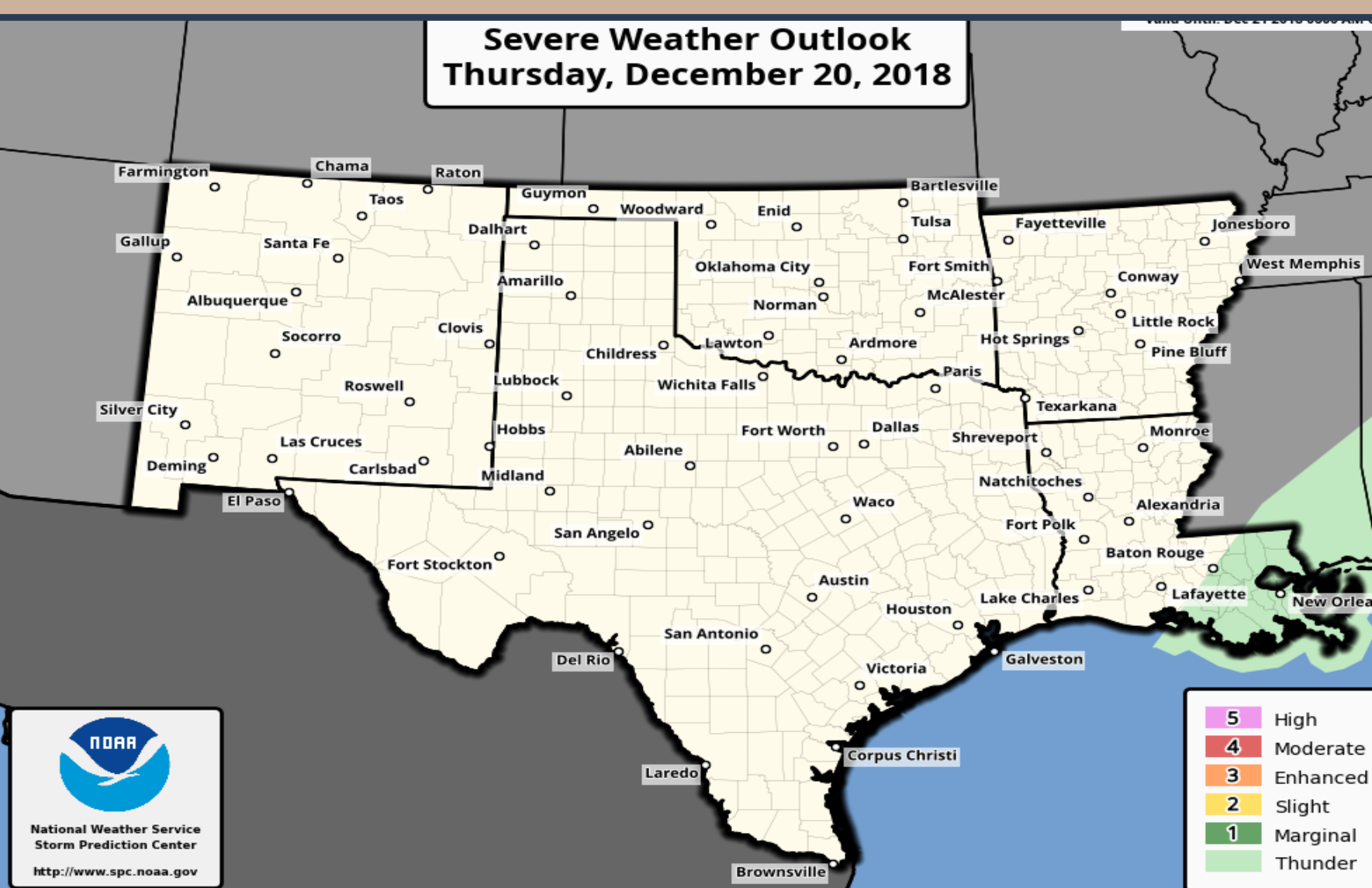


## Forecast Rainfall



**Fire Weather Concerns  
Increase across  
Deep South Texas**

## Severe Weather Outlook



## Excessive Rainfall Outlook

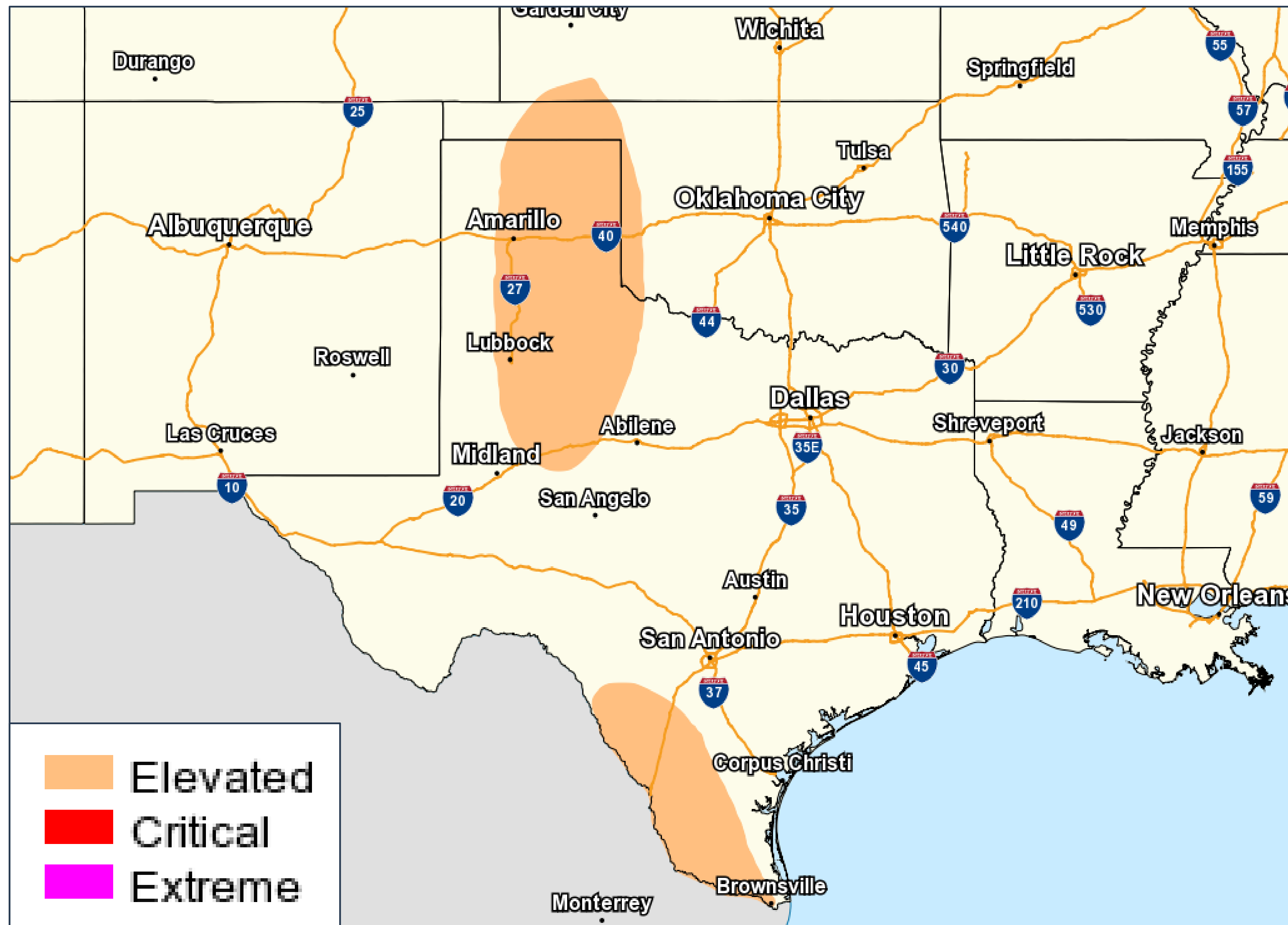




# Tomorrow's Fire Weather Outlook



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**Elevated fire weather conditions over the TX/OK Panhandles into W OK/NW TX**

**Elevated to near critical across the Rio Grande Valley into Deep South Texas**



# Fire Weather Watches/Warnings

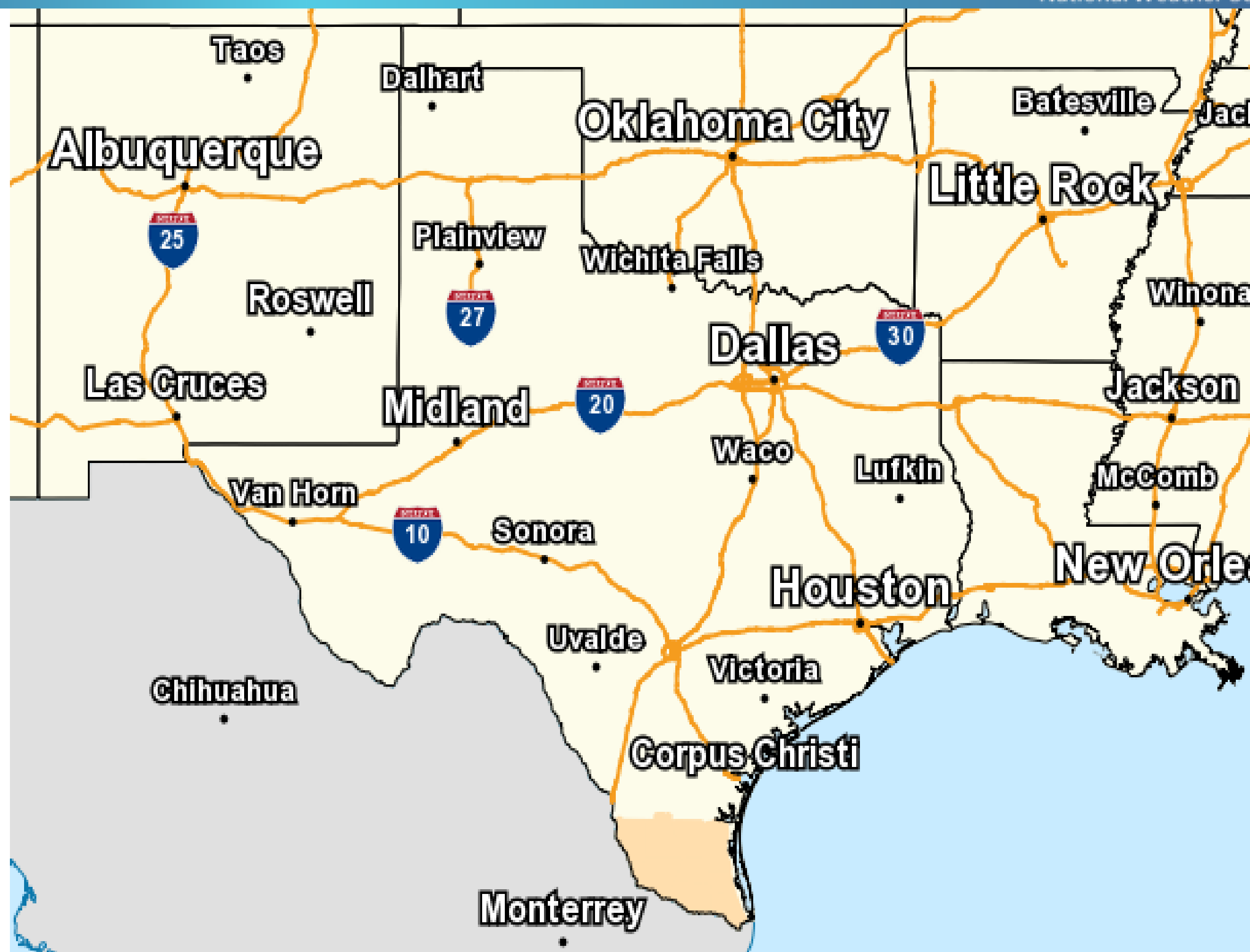


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## Fire Weather Watches and Warnings

National Weather Service

Fire Weather Watch



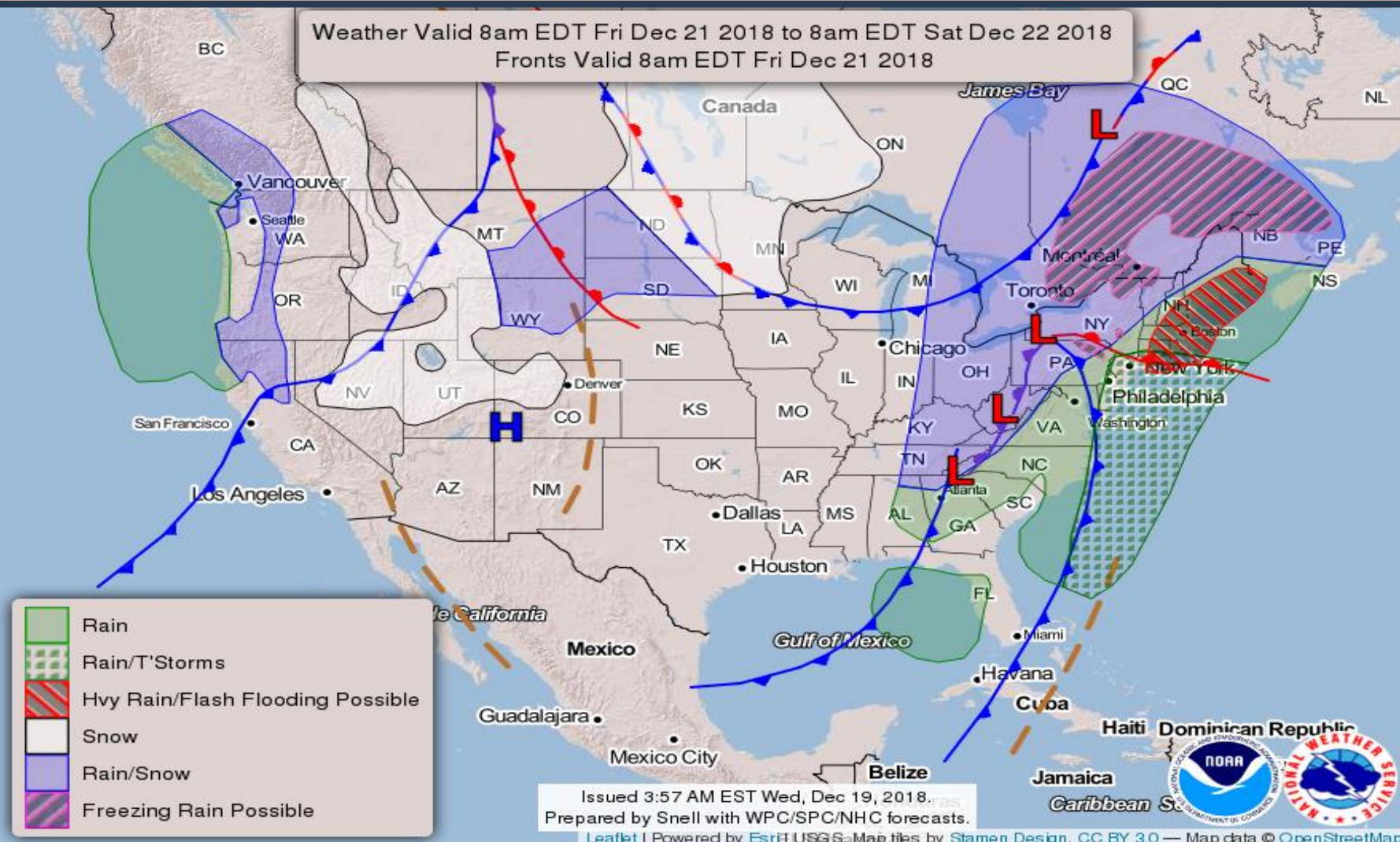
Graphic Created

**Fire Weather Watch Thursday  
afternoon for Deep South Texas**

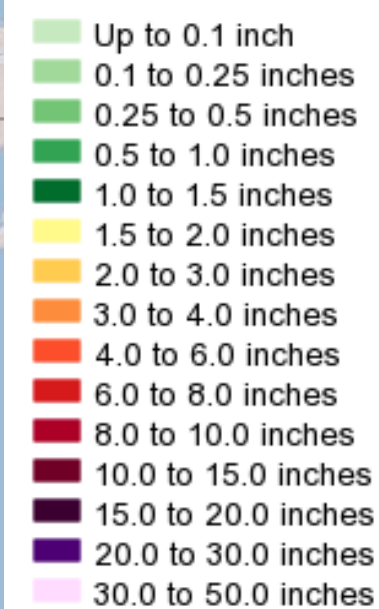


# Friday's Weather

## Forecast Chart



## Forecast Rainfall



Graphic Created  
December 19th, 2018

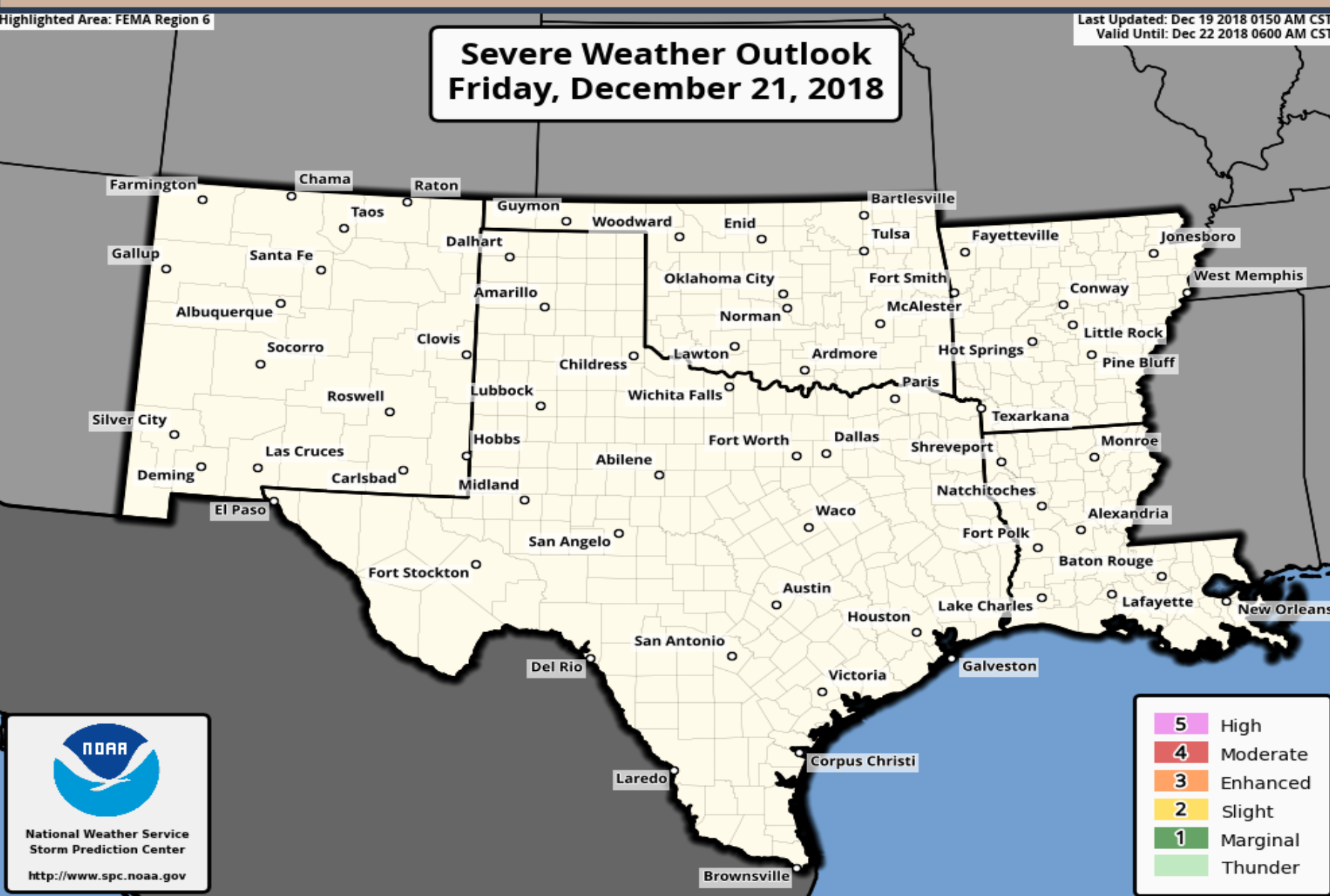


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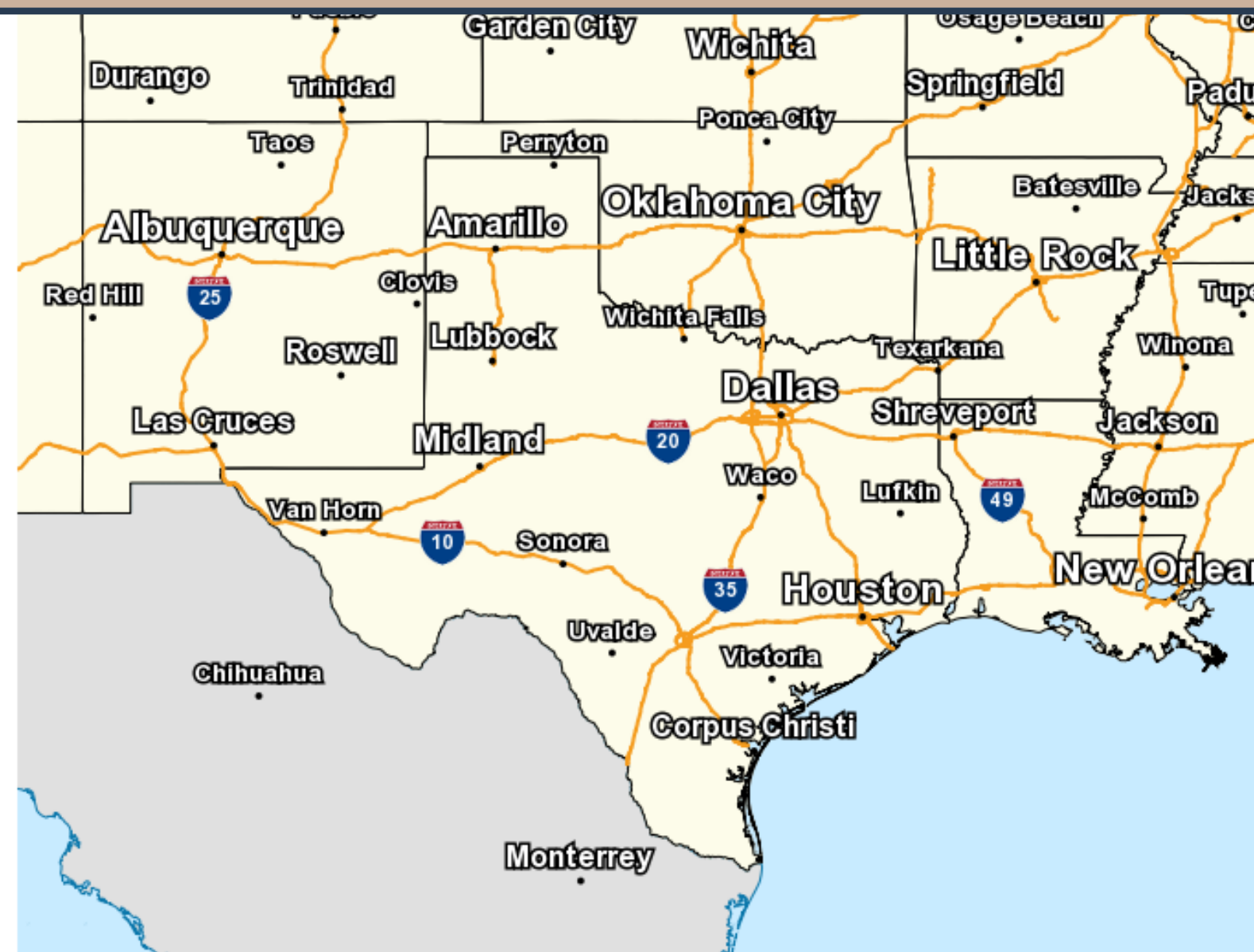
No Significant Weather  
Impacts Expected.

## Severe Weather Outlook

Severe Weather Outlook  
Friday, December 21, 2018



## Excessive Rainfall Outlook



Graphic Created  
December 19th, 2018  
AM CST

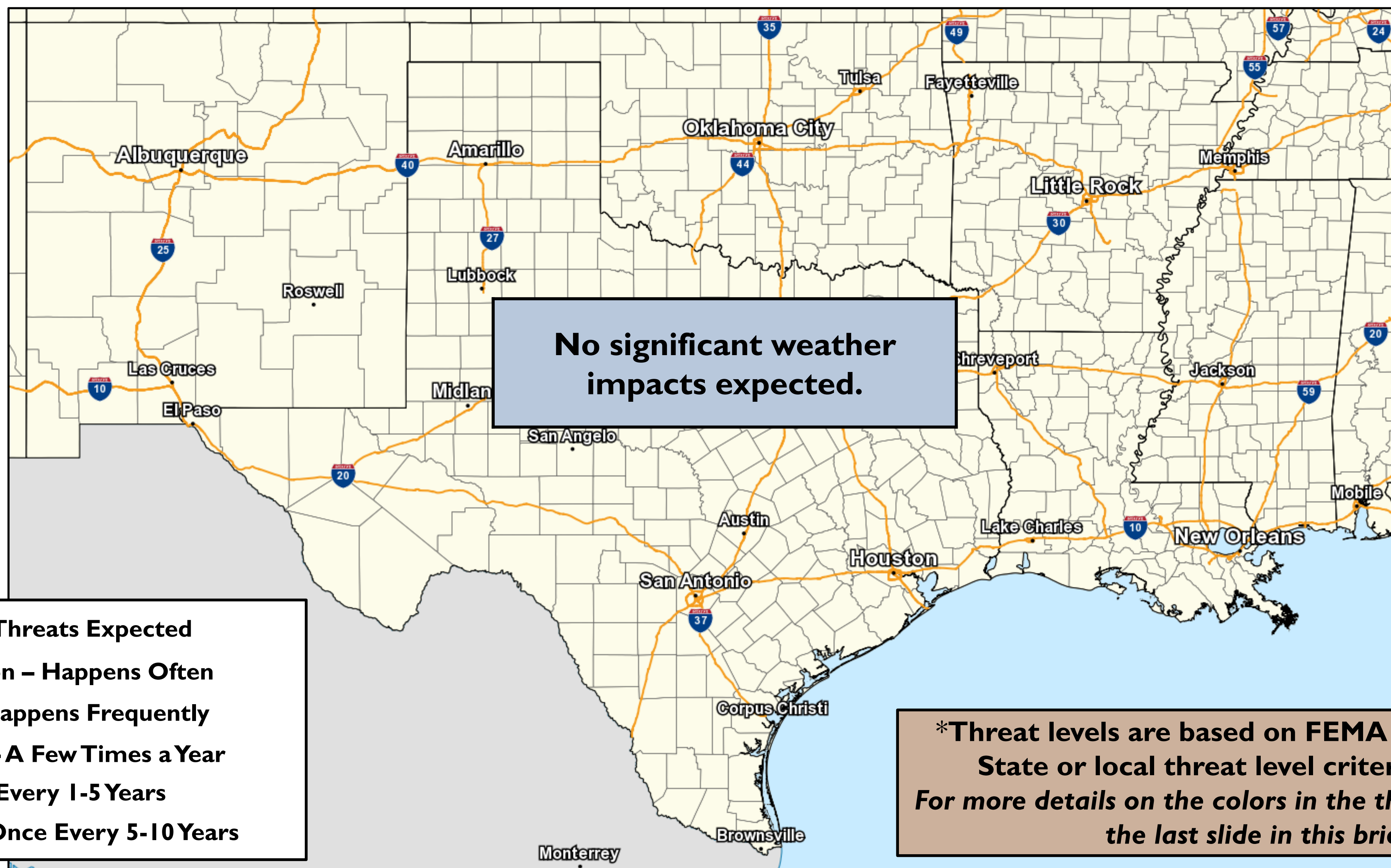


# Days 4-5 Weather Hazards

Saturday – Sunday



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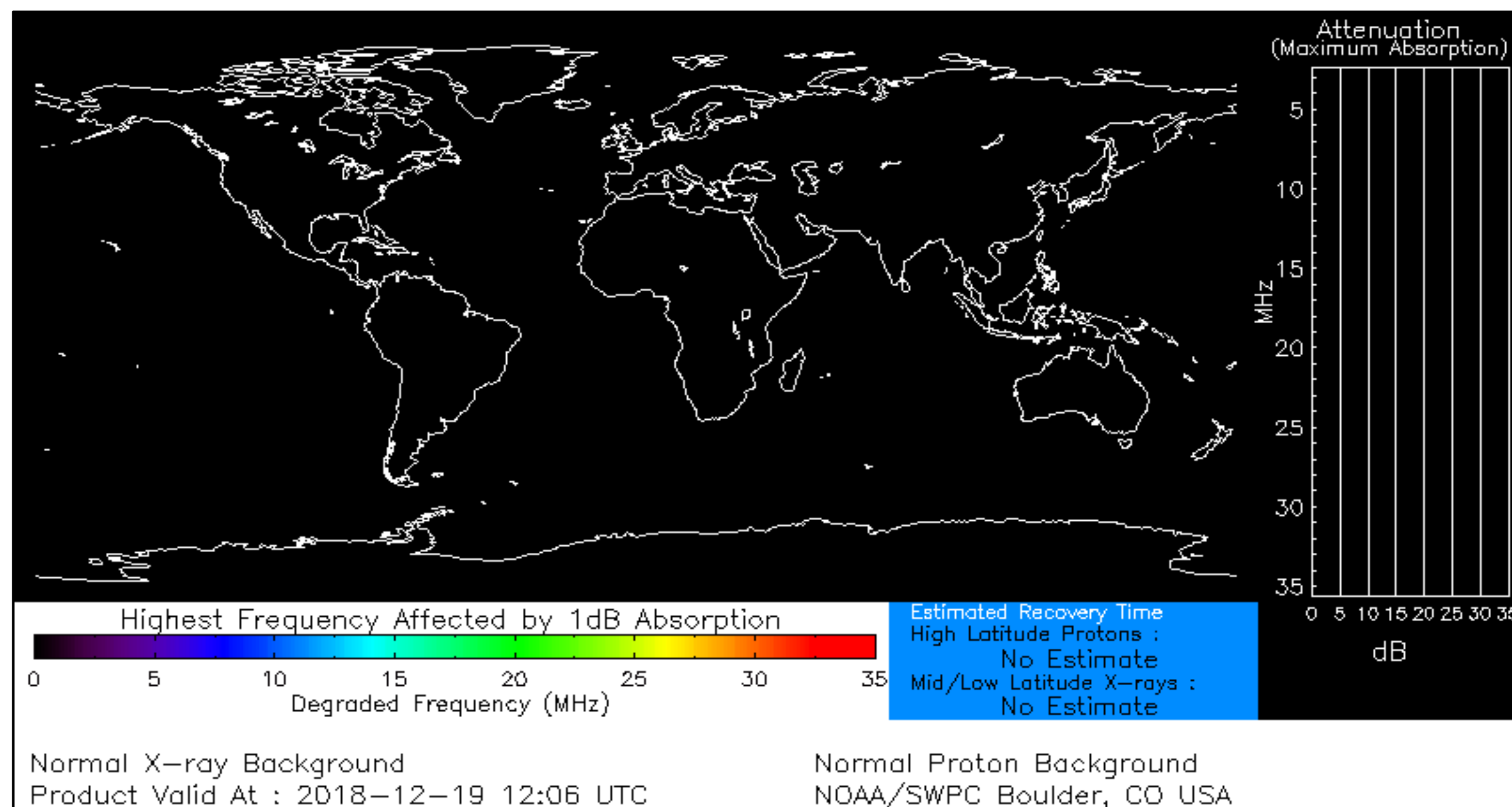


# Space Weather 3-Day Forecast



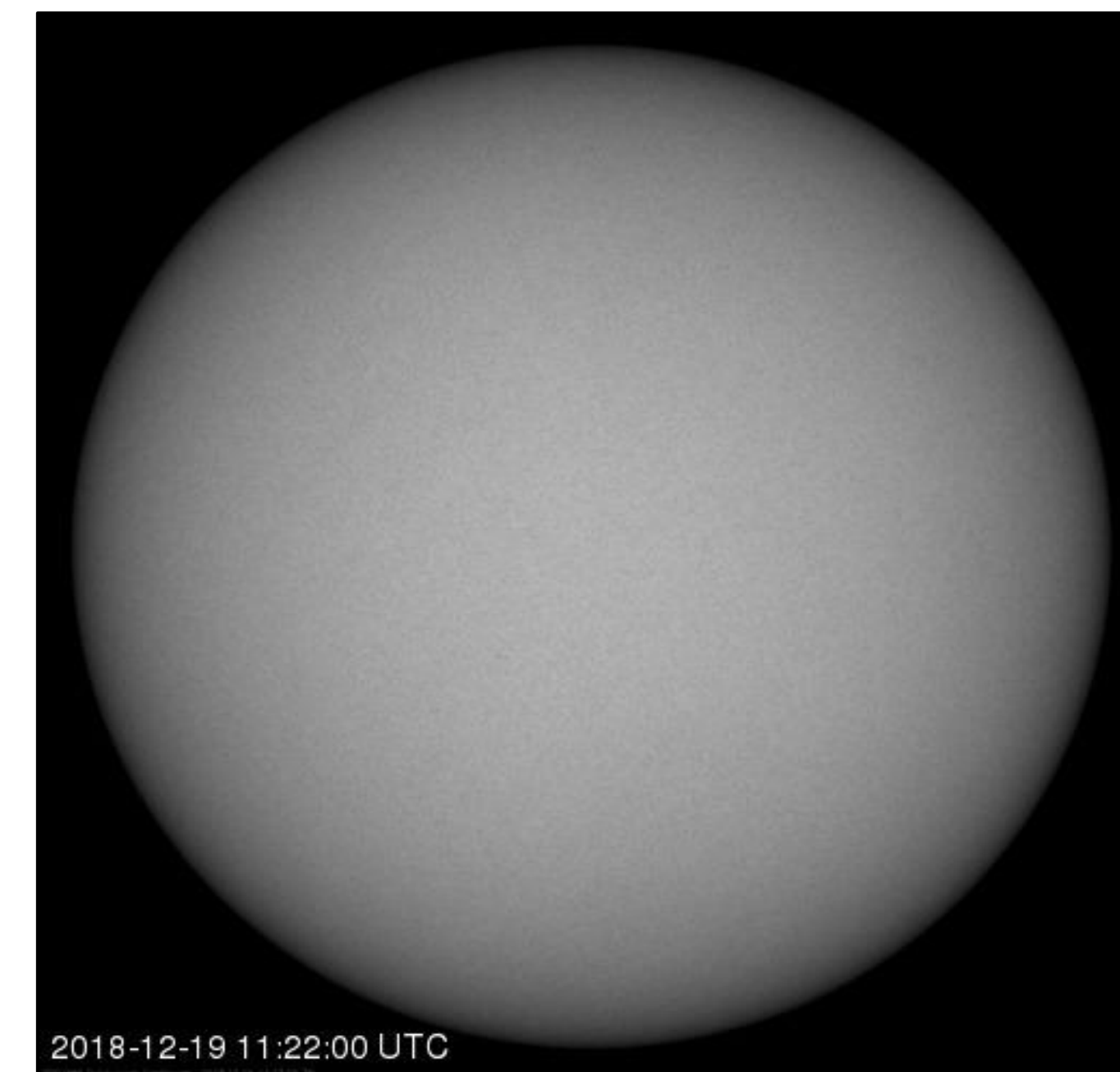
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	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Geomagnetic Storms	Quiet to Unsettled (Max Kp = 3)	Quiet (Max Kp = 2)	Quiet (Max Kp = 2)
Solar Radiation Storm (S1-S5)	1%	1%	1%
Radio Blackout (R1-R2)	1%	1%	1%
Radio Blackout (R3-R5)	1%	1%	1%



[Click here for a Description of the Space Weather Storm Scales](#)

[Click here for the Latest 3-Day Space Weather Forecast Text](#)



2018-12-19 11:22:00 UTC





# For more information, please contact:

**National Weather Service**  
Southern Region Headquarters  
Regional Operations Center  
Fort Worth, TX

Phone: (682) 703-3747

E-mail: [sr-srh.roc@noaa.gov](mailto:sr-srh.roc@noaa.gov)

Web: <http://www.weather.gov/srh>





Weather “Threat” Matrix			
Color	Definition	Criteria	Example(s)
Green	<b>Very Common</b> Safety: Rarely a Direct Threat to Life and Property Impact Potential: Typically Results in Little Inconvenience to Daily Routines	Severe: Marginal Risk from SPC Flooding: Minor flooding expected over localized areas Tropical: None Fire Weather: No Watches/Warnings, fuel moisture above 10% or green up active	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Thunderstorms expected over LA this afternoon; a few may produce winds to knock down a few trees</li> <li>Something that happens almost every day in a particular season such as <u>seabreeze</u> storms in coastal TX</li> </ul>
Yellow	<b>Somewhat Common – Happens Frequently</b> Safety: Rarely a Direct Threat to Life and Property Impact Potential: Typically Results in Some Inconvenience to Daily Life	Severe: Slight Risk from SPC Flooding: Nuisance flooded expected for a widespread area, or Minor flooding expected over isolated areas Tropical: A weak tropical wave expected to move towards or near any coastline Fire Weather: Red Flag Watches/Warnings and/or SPC outlines enhanced or critical fire outlook	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2-3 inches of rainfall expected over central AR today and tonight; some minor (brief) street flooding possible</li> <li>Scattered severe storms possible, one or two tornadoes expected, along with reports of strong winds/wind damage and ~1” hail</li> </ul>
Orange	<b>Uncommon – A Few Times a Year</b> Safety: Often Threatening to Life and Property, Some Damage Unavoidable Impact Potential: Typically Results in Minor Disruption to Daily Life	Severe: Enhanced Risk from SPC Flooding: Minor flooding expected over a widespread area (including urban locations), or Moderate flooding expected over isolated areas Tropical: A Tropical Storm expected to move towards or near any coastline Fire: Critical fire outlook for more than 2 consecutive days, Warnings for 2 or more consecutive days, D3-D4 drought conditions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A snow/sleet mix is expected to move through or near the DFW area tomorrow morning; travel impacts likely</li> <li>Numerous severe storms possible, a few tornadoes possible along with several reports of wind damage along with damaging hail</li> <li>Some large fires reported, burn bans advertised, critical conditions expected</li> </ul>
Red	<b>Rare – Once every 1-5 Years</b> Safety: Extensive Property Damage Likely, Life Saving Actions Also will be Needed Impact Potential: Will likely result in Large Disruption to Daily Life	Severe: Moderate Risk from SPC Flooding: Moderate flooding expected over a widespread area (including urban locations) Tropical: A Hurricane expected to move towards or near any coastline Fire: Large areas of critical conditions for 2 or more days, Warnings for 3 or more days, Severe to extreme drought	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A Category 1 hurricane will be moving towards the NW Gulf in the next few days</li> <li>Widespread severe storms likely, strong tornadoes, widespread wind damage, and destructive hail</li> <li>Large fires ongoing throughout the area with critical fire weather conditions expected to continue</li> </ul>
Purple	<b>Very Rare – Once Every 5-10 Years</b> Safety: Property Damage Unavoidable, Immediate Action to Save Life will be Needed Impact Potential: Typically Results in Long-Lived Widespread Major Disruption to Daily Life	Severe: High Risk from SPC Flooding: Major flooding expected over a widespread area (including urban locations) Tropical: A Major Hurricane (Cat3 or greater) expected to move towards or near any coastline Fire: Large area of critical conditions for 2 or more days, Warnings for 3 or more days, Long term (months) of severe to extreme drought	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A Category 4 hurricane is headed towards the SE LA; major storm surge, flooding and damaging winds anticipated to begin tomorrow</li> <li>Widespread severe storms expected, tornado outbreak probable with long-lived, very widespread and particularly intense storms</li> </ul>

**Criteria for the color codes in this briefing is to the left, please provide any feedback to**

**[sr-srh.roc@noaa.gov](mailto:sr-srh.roc@noaa.gov)**